

very particular about keeping the Word of Wisdom, but who were neglectful of the law of tithing, and others who paid their tithes promptly, but neglected the Word of Wisdom. Suppose one of the selectmen of this county, in repairing a bridge over the Jordan, the posts of which had decayed, should put in a few good posts on one side and leave the rotten ones on the other. Would we consider that a sensible course or that the bridge was safe? No; when the next election came we would want a new selectman.

I am constantly laboring to improve my spiritual nature, but my practical nature is fully developed at the present time. Some of those who keep the Word of Wisdom will find the law of tithing the weak post under them. Men keep the commandments which are easy for them to keep. A man who is liberal or careless about money matters finds it easy to pay tithing. He doesn't care how the money comes or how it goes. But a man who is naturally penurious and selfish finds it hard to keep this law. I hate to say it, but I sometimes think that the reason some men keep the Word of Wisdom is because they can see that by keeping it they can save a great deal of money.

Brother Morgan has obtained statistics from many of the penitentiaries in the country, and they show the great majority of the inmates to be educated men. It used to be said that to educate the rising generation would lead them to govern themselves according to correct principles, but experience has shown this to be untrue. Neglect to educate the moral nature will cause it to become weak, withered, and ineffectual to control the conduct of the individual. The education of our children, without the principles of the Gospel, may be the very means of leading them into spiritual darkness.

We should study all of the principles of the Gospel and seek to practice all of them. A selfish man cannot keep the commandments of God. A selfish man cannot help the families of his brethren who are in prison, help to pay their fines, donate for the poor and to gather the scattered Saints, without losing his selfishness and becoming expanded in his spiritual nature.

Those of you who break the Word of Wisdom tremble in your hearts when there is sickness in your families. Why? Because you know you have not complied with the conditions upon which God has promised life and health to you and to your households. If we expect to return to and dwell with God we will have to prepare ourselves so to our enemies could not withstand us. If we would make up our minds to let our fellows alone and discipline ourselves, there would be a great reformation among the Latter-day Saints.

For years we have been urged to sustain home manufactures, and yet very few of us dress in home made

goods. They are not good enough for us, or we can buy imported goods cheaper. This is a wrong policy. I always admire the Bishop who teaches by example; who says, "Dress in home made goods as I do; pay your tithing as I do; keep the Word of Wisdom as I do."

About fifty years ago the Lord gave a revelation in which He says that Zion might have been redeemed then but for the transgressions of the people. No tongue can tell the sufferings of women and children among the Latter-day Saints today. Why is this? Because we have done wrong. We have built up our enemies in our midst. We have not made our works correspond with our prayers. We have invited the wicked to come among us and have helped to establish them here. We have not discerned between friends and enemies, and many of us are under condemnation because we have sought our own welfare in preference to that of the work of God.

We go to preach the Gospel abroad willingly. If we would be one-half as faithful at home as we are when abroad on our missions, no power on earth could withstand us. Suppose a man in England hears an Elder there preach that it is wrong to smoke. On being converted and on coming to Zion he sees that Elder smoking, what is the result? Can a man take out a subscription to build a school or a temple, and get the Saints to subscribe if he does not put his own name down? He will find it hard work to do so.

I pray that the blessing of God may be and abide with you all in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER ELIAS MORRIS

addressed the conference. I can say "amen" to all I have heard this afternoon. I believe this work is the work of the living God. We have satisfactory evidence that God has been with us so far, and though some may tremble at the outlook, I can see that we are living in the brightest days of the world, the dawn of the triumph of the work of God.

I do not object to seeing a man gather around himself the wealth of this world, if he has a heart that will lead him to use the same for the building up of the kingdom of God. I have traveled east and west of late, but there is no people who to me are like the people of Utah. Here I can breathe an air of freedom and rejoice in the principles of the Gospel.

In regard to the great question of home industry, I made some investigation while away. In California they are establishing the manufacture of sugar successfully. Utah consumes \$1,000,000 worth of sugar annually, and I believe all this money might be kept at home and devoted to other purposes, and that all the sugar we need might be produced by home labor. We gather the poor Saints to this land, but in many instances they fail to find employment or many friends when they arrive. In consequence their faith often becomes clouded. A change should be made in this regard, and something done to de-

velop home industries and furnish employment for our people.

PRESIDENT ANGUS M. CANNON

spoke. The subject of home industry has occupied my mind a great deal. It is true that we consume a great amount of sugar which should be produced at home if possible. We should not have a country such as an apostate once said this was; one where the flowers were without fragrance, the birds without song and the people without sympathy. We should labor to make the country God has given us one of peace, joy and plenty.

I was pleased at the address at this conference in which it was shown that the prophecies of the Scriptures concerning this people are being fulfilled. If we would secure the favor of God we must learn to do His will. We should place all we have upon the altar, and hold it in readiness to be devoted to the upbuilding of His Kingdom.

I feel glad that I live in this day to see our settlements increasing, and our families growing like flocks. When a man sees his family grow in godliness and a knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ, he can afford to rejoice though he might spend half his time in prison.

I glorify God that He is teaching us how to prize liberty. When I was in prison I said to a fellow prisoner: We will hereafter know how to treat prisoners who may be confined to our care, and to sympathize with the unfortunate. When we come into positions of trust and power I hope we will never abuse them. Let us learn to exercise righteous dominion and control, and make a righteous use of the means God has given us. As surely as the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, Zion will grow, prosper and triumph.

The choir sang an anthem and the conference adjourned for six months.

Benediction by Apostle John Henry Smith.

Priesthood Meeting.

The regular monthly meeting of the Priesthood of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion convened in the Assembly Hall at 11 a.m. today—Saturday, March 2nd, 1889, President Angus M. Cannon presiding. There were also present upon the stand Apostle George Q. Cannon, Presiding Bishop Wm. B. Preston, Bishop John R. Winder, President Thomas E. Ricks, of the Bannock Stake, and other Elders. The attendance was large. All the wards of the Stake were properly represented.

President Cannon announced the death of Elder Hosea Stout, ex-member of the High Council, at his home, in Big Cottonwood, this morning.

The following question was submitted by Bishop Alva Butler:

"If anyone is excommunicated from the Church, holding the Priesthood, and afterwards repents and is baptized again, does that give him the right to hold and officiate in the Priesthood he held before he was excommunicated, or will he